However, under the Non/Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR), 3 health projects have been sanctioned by the Department of Development of North Eastern Region (DONER), *viz* the development of Assam Medical College & Hospital (HOPE) at an estimated cost of Rs. 20 crores, Upgradation of Guwahati Medical College & Hospital at an estimated cost of Rs. 8 crores and construction of 100-bedded hospital at Udaljuri at an estimated cost of Rs. 1.69 Crores.

A grant of Rs. 1.10 crores has also been released to the Govt. of Assam for hospital waste management facilities at Medical Colleges at Guwahati, Dibrugarh, Silchar and Mahendera Mohan Chowdhury Hospital, Guwahati. A grant of Rs. 1.50 crore each has also been released to Assam Medical College, Dibrugarh and Nalbari District Hospital, Nalbari for upgradation and strengthening of emergency facilities.

Promotion to Yoga

†1120. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of cases have come to Government's notice wherein incurable diseases have been cured by yoga;

(b) if so, whether Government have formulated any plan to promote yoga; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government have initiated a number of steps which include establishment of the Central Council for Research in Yoga and Naturopathy (CCRYN), Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIY) in New Delhi to promote Yoga. Through the CCRYN, Government promotes intra and extra mural research in different branches of Yoga and also provide financial support for propagation and scientific validation of Yoga therapy. The MDNIY is engaged in promotion of education and Yoga therapy, directly. Besides,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Government in the Department of Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH) also provide financial assistance under Extra Mural Research Scheme to reputed and accreditated Yoga institutions for research in Yoga.

Medical Colleges in Karnataka

1121. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for starting of new medical colleges in Karnataka which have been recommended for approval by Medical Council of India and sent to Government for its approval;

(b) out of the above how many new Medical Colleges in Karnataka have been permitted during 2004-05; and

(c) the number of applications from private managements recommended by the MCI for increasing the existing in-take of MBBS and Post-Graduate courses in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) The Medical Council of India has recommended for grant of permission for establishment of SDM Medical College at Dharwad, Karnataka with intake of 100 students from the academic year 2004-05. Government has already issued Letter of Intent and the matter for grant of permission is under process.

(c) There is no proposal from Karnataka for increase in MBBS seats. However, applications have been received during 2004 from the following institutions for increase in Post-Graduate seats:

1.	National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences, Bangalore	For increase in seats in DPM course
2.	Sr. Dev Raj Urs Medical College, Kolar	For increase in seats in MD (Radio Diagnosis)

The proposals have been sent to MCI for evaluation. Clearance of these proposals depends on availability of facilities and recommendations of MCI thereon.